

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 1-53 and add new claims 55-107.

1.-53. (Cancelled)

54. (Previously presented) Sheet-processing machine for processing sheets each comprising a plurality of copies, said sheet-processing machine comprising a plurality of modules through which said sheets are transported one after the other along a sheet conveying direction, said plurality of modules including a sheet feeder module for feeding the sheets and one or more downstream sheet-processing modules including at least an inspection module for monitoring the print quality of the sheets,

wherein the inspection module comprises two transport cylinders for transporting the sheets for inspection of front and rear sides of the sheets by inspection devices,

wherein the inspection module comprises a third transport cylinder having a transparent casing and an additional inspection device for inspecting light-transmitting capacity of the sheets, and

wherein the additional inspection device comprises an image sensor and a light source for inspection by transmission, the light source being arranged within the transparent casing of the third transport cylinder.

55. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein the inspection devices comprise an image sensor and a light source for inspection by reflection.

56. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein the inspection devices comprise a UV light source and a light sensor for detecting fluorescence produced by the UV light source.

57. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein the inspection devices comprise a magnetic field sensor.

58. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein said inspection module comprises an even number of transport cylinders for transporting the sheets from a sheet input interface to a sheet output interface of the inspection module.

59. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein the sheet feeder module and inspection module each have their own respective side frame panels.

60. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 59, wherein the sheet feeder module and inspection module each have at least one transport cylinder which is fixed to the side frame panels.

61. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 59, wherein the side frame panels of the sheet feeder module and inspection module are fixed to one another.

62. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein a numbering module for applying serial numbering to the sheets is provided downstream of the inspection module with respect to the sheet conveying direction.

63. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 62, wherein the sheet feeder module, inspection module and numbering module each have their own respective side frame panels.

64. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 63, wherein the numbering module has a cut-out for engagement and support of the side frame panels of the inspection module.

65. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 62, wherein the numbering module is arranged behind the inspection module with respect to the sheet conveying direction, so as to apply the numbering only to those sheets which have passed the quality check carried out by the inspection module.

66. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 62, wherein the numbering module comprises at least one numbering unit for printing a serial number on the sheets to be processed.

67. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 66, wherein the numbering module comprises two numbering units which are arranged on a counter-pressure cylinder with two printing segments.

68. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 62, wherein a marking device for applying a marking to the sheets is arranged in the numbering module.

69. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 68, wherein the marking device is arranged upstream of a numbering unit of the numbering module.

70. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 68, wherein the marking device is arranged on a counter-pressure cylinder of the numbering module.

71. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 62, wherein an inking unit module is provided which, in conjunction with the numbering module, forms a printing module.

72. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 71, wherein inking unit rollers of the inking unit module are mounted in side frame panels which are connected to side frame panels of the numbering module.

73. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 71, wherein a form cylinder is provided in the numbering module for cooperation with the inking unit module to form the printing module.

74. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 73, wherein the printing module uses an output transport cylinder of the inspection module upstream of the numbering module as counter-pressure cylinder for the form cylinder.

75. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 71, wherein the inking unit module is removably installed on the numbering module.

76. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 74, wherein the form cylinder is of a same size as the output transport cylinder acting as counter-pressure cylinder.

77. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein a marking module for marking a sheet as usable or unusable depending on a monitoring result of the inspection module is provided downstream of the inspection module with respect to the sheet conveying direction.

78. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 77, wherein the sheet feeder module, inspection module and marking module each have their own respective side frame panels.

79. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 78, wherein the marking module has a cut-out for engagement and support of the side frame panels of the inspection module.

80. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 77, wherein a marking device for applying a marking to the sheets is arranged in the marking module.

81. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 77, wherein an inking unit module is provided which, in conjunction with the marking module, forms a printing module.

82. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 81, wherein inking unit rollers of the inking unit module are mounted in side frame panels which are connected to side frame panels of the marking module.

83. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 81, wherein a form cylinder is provided in the marking module for cooperation with the inking unit module to form the printing module.

84. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 83, wherein the printing module uses an output transport cylinder of the inspection module upstream of the marking module as counter-pressure cylinder for the form cylinder.

85. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 81, wherein the inking unit module is removably installed on the marking module.

86. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 84, wherein the form cylinder is of a same size as the output transport cylinder acting as counter-pressure cylinder.

87. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, further comprising a marking device for applying a marking to the sheets.

88. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 87, wherein the marking device marks an edge region of a column and/or row in which a fault detected by said inspection module is located.

89. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 87, wherein the marking device marks a column and outputs a row number in which a fault detected by said inspection module is located.

90. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 87, wherein the marking device is arranged to apply the marking as unusable selectively to individual copies or in relation to individual copies on a sheet.

91. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 87, wherein the marking device comprises a plurality of print heads which are distributed uniformly transversely to the sheet conveying direction.

92. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 87, wherein the marking device is an inkjet printing unit.

93. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein a transport module is further provided, which transport module is interposed between the sheet feeder module and the inspection module.

94. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 93, wherein an inking unit module is provided which, in conjunction with the transport module, forms a printing module.

95. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 94, wherein inking unit rollers of the inking unit module are mounted in side frame panels which are connected to side frame panels of the transport module.

96. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 94, wherein a form cylinder is provided in the transport module for cooperation with the inking unit module to form the printing module.

97. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 96, wherein the printing module uses an output transport cylinder of the sheet feeder module upstream of the transport module as counter-pressure cylinder for the form cylinder.

98. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 94, wherein the inking unit module is removably installed on the transport module.

99. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 97, wherein the form cylinder is of a same size as the output transport cylinder acting as counter-pressure cylinder.

100. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 93, wherein columns are provided for supporting the sheet feeder module, the transport module and the inspection module.

101. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 77, wherein an expansion module is further provided, which expansion module is interposed between the inspection module and the marking module.

102. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 101, wherein columns are provided for supporting the sheet feeder module, the inspection module and the expansion module.

103. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein columns are provided for supporting the sheet feeder module and the inspection module.

104. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein an output transport cylinder at a sheet output interface of the inspection module and an output transport cylinder at a sheet output interface of the sheet feeder module are arranged at a same height.

105. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 54, wherein transfer of a sheet from an upstream module to a downstream module is effected by means of an output transport cylinder located at a sheet output interface of the upstream module which transfers the sheet to an input transport cylinder located at a sheet input interface of the downstream module.

106. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 105, wherein the output transport cylinder of the upstream module and the input transport cylinder of the downstream module have opposite directions of rotation.

107. (New) Sheet-processing machine according to claim 105, wherein a circumference of the input and output transport cylinders are of a same size.